

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-7 and 14-101, without prejudice to the inclusion of the subject matter contained therein in any later filed continuation and/or divisional application(s). Further, please amend claims 8 and 10-13 and add new claims 102-107 as set forth below.

1-7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) ~~[[The]]~~An isolated nucleic acid encoding a eukaryotic Survival of Motor Neuron-Interacting Protein 1 and any mutants, derivatives, variants, and fragments thereof~~of claim 1~~, said nucleic acid further comprising a nucleic acid encoding a tag polypeptide covalently linked thereto.

9. (Original) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 8, wherein said tag polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of a myc tag polypeptide, a myc-pyruvate kinase tag polypeptide, a His6 tag polypeptide, an influenza virus hemagglutinin tag polypeptide, a maltose binding protein tag polypeptide, and a glutathione-S-transferase tag polypeptide.

10. (Currently Amended) The isolated nucleic acid of claim ~~[[1]]~~8, said nucleic acid further comprising a nucleic acid ~~[[encoding]]~~ specifying a promoter/regulatory sequence operably linked thereto.

11. (Currently Amended) A recombinant cell comprising the nucleic acid of claim 8.~~The isolated nucleic acid of claim 10, said nucleic acid further comprising said nucleic acid of claim 9 encoding a tag polypeptide.~~

12. (Currently Amended) A recombinant cell comprising the nucleic acid of claim ~~[[11]]~~ 10.

13. (Currently Amended) The cell of claim ~~[[12]]~~ 11, wherein said cell is a pre-B lymphoid DT40 cell.

14-101. (Canceled)

102. (New) The cell of claim 12, wherein said cell is a pre-B lymphoid DT40 cell.

103. (New) A vector comprising the nucleic acid of claim 8.

104. (New) The vector of claim 103, said vector further comprising a nucleic acid specifying a promoter/regulatory sequence operably linked thereto.

105. (New) A recombinant cell comprising the vector of claim 103.

106. (New) A recombinant cell comprising the vector of claim 104.

107. (New) An isolated nucleic acid encoding a human Survival of Motor Neuron-Interacting Protein 1, wherein said nucleic acid encodes a protein that differs from the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 by a mutation that inhibits binding of Survival of Motor Neuron-Interacting Protein 1 with Survival of Motor Neuron protein, wherein said mutation comprises a deletion of the carboxyl terminal 89 amino acids relative to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 and a deletion of the carboxyl terminal 162 amino acids relative to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, and further wherein said nucleic acid comprises a nucleic acid encoding a tag polypeptide covalently linked thereto.